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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Covers for the Rims of Steering and the like Wheels

I, ANTHONY CESARE ANSELM, (known as Anthony Cesar Anselm), a British Subject, of Silnay Works, King's Road, New Haw, Addlestone Weybridge, Surrey, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to covers for the rims of steering and the like wheels, and has for an object the provision of an improved form of such covers.

Steering wheels are known in which the rim has a cover of elastic material which fits snugly around the rim without the necessity for any fastening devices and has a roughened or corrugated outer surface which increases the security of the grip necessary for steering a vehicle such as a motor car.

According to the present invention there is provided for a steering or like wheel an independent cover of elastic material of substantially U section which is sprung over the rim of the wheel so as to adhere tightly thereto, and has an outer surface formed as ribs substantially parallel to one another and to the axis of the wheel. Preferably the circumferential edges of the cover are formed as beads.

The elastic material may be one of the well known plasticised synthetic resins, and the cover may be formed by extrusion and the ends of a suitable length of the extruded material joined securely, for example by heat welding the joint.

If desired the plasticised cover may be toughened by treating the extruded material of which it is made with a solvent for the plasticiser, either before or after the cover is fitted to the wheel.

In the latter case the cover in its flexible state may be fitted to the wheel rim and subsequently shrunk down hard on the rim by soaking the latter, with the cover in place, in solvents which extract the plasticiser and render the cover hard,

tough and difficult to remove from the rim.

One way of carrying the invention into effect will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a motor car steering wheel with cover attached.

Figure 2 is a radial section of the rim of the wheel of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged view of part of Figure 1, partly in section.

Referring to the drawings, a cover 1 of plasticised synthetic resin with its ribbed outer surface 2 and beaded edges 3 is formed by extrusion and the ends of a piece of the correct length for the circumference of the wheel rim 5 are butt welded by heat. The cover is then sprung on to the wheel rim 5 as shown in the drawings.

To harden and shrink the cover 1 to the wheel rim 5, the covered rim is treated with solvents which extract the plasticisers used in the manufacture of the extrusible material.

The invention is applicable to wheels other than motor car steering wheels when a non slipping surface of the wheel rim is desirable, and the cover may be produced in any desired colour or colours.

What I claim is:—

1. A steering or like wheel having an independent cover of elastic material of substantially U section which is sprung over the wheel rim so as to adhere tightly thereto, and has an outer surface formed as ribs substantially parallel to one another and to the axis of the wheel.

2. A steering or like wheel as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the cover is formed by extrusion of plastic material and the ends of a suitable length of the extruded material are joined securely, for example, by heat welding.

3. A steering or like wheel as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the cover is of plasticised material and when fitted on

[Price 2/8] 43 63

the wheel rim is treated with solvents to extract the plasticising materials and shrink and harden the cover on the rim.

4. A steering or like wheel substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.
- 5

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